

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ANALYZING A COMMUNICATIONS
NETWORK LINK**

Abstract of the Disclosure

A method and system for testing at least one link in a communications network.

5 The system includes first and second analyzer units that are configured to test an existing link in the network. Alternatively, the first and second analyzer units may be configured to establish and test a link between them. A computer remotely controls the first and second analyzer units to perform testing of various communication parameters, such as packet loss and latency. Each analyzer unit may be configured to collect data over a predetermined duration to establish a network baseline of operation, which may 10 be used to detect future network malfunctions. The computer estimates the deviation of communication parameters from the network baseline.

15 **PATENT**

S:\DOCS\MMA\UMMA-1818.DOC
102699